APPENDIX:

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST OF INDIVIDUAL *AMICI*

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Clifton Kirkpatrick, as Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, is the senior continuing officer of the highest governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is the largest Presbyterian denomination in the United States, with approximately 2,750,000 active members in 11,500 congregations organized into 172 presbyteries under the jurisdiction of 16 synods.

The General Assembly does not claim to speak for all Presbyterians, nor are its deliverances and policy statements binding on the membership of the Presbyterian Church. The General Assembly is the highest legislative and interpretive body of the denomination, and the final point of decision in all disputes. As such, its statements are considered worthy of the respect and prayerful consideration of all the denomination's members.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its predecessor denominations have a long and rich tradition of supporting the separation of Church and State required by the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution. In keeping with that tradition, the 200th General Assembly, in 1988, suggested that conflict was inevitable when a school promoted one religious position because "[s]tudents holding minority views are bound to be offended when the government adopts one . . . without reference to other views."

United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ

The United Church Board for Homeland Ministries is responsible for the prophetic mission of the United Church of Christ within the United States and Puerto Rico. The United Church Board for Homeland Ministries is one of the denomination's mission boards with deep commitments to the integrity of education and public life. The

United Church of Christ, whose headquarters are in Cleveland, Ohio, includes over 6,000 member congregations and one and a half million members.

The American Jewish Committee

The American Jewish Committee ("AJC"), a national organization founded in 1906, is dedicated to the defense of the religious rights and freedoms of all Americans. AJC is committed to the belief that separation of religion and government is the surest guarantee of religious liberty and has proved of inestimable value to the free exercise of religion in our pluralistic society. In support of this vital principle, AJC through the years has filed numerous briefs in this Court. We do so again in the conviction that religious observances of any kind do not belong in public schools.

Anti-Defamation League

The Anti-Defamation League ("ADL") was organized in 1913 to advance good will and mutual understanding among Americans of all creeds and races, and to combat racial and religious prejudice in the United States. ADL has always adhered to the principle, as an important priority, that the above goals and the general stability of our democracy are best served through the separation of church and state and the right to the free exercise of religion. In support of this principle, ADL has previously filed amicus briefs in numerous court cases at the federal level. ADL is able to bring to the issues raised in this case the perspective of a national organization dedicated to safeguarding all persons' religious freedoms.

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is the highest administrative level of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and represents nearly 40,000 congregations with more than 8.6 million members worldwide. The North American Division of the General Conference administers the work of the church in the United States,

Canada, and Bermuda and represents more than 4,200 congregations in the United States with nearly 800,000 members, including approximately 260 congregations and some 26,000 members in the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has strongly supported the twin concepts of free exercise of religion and the separation of church and state since its founding in 1863 and actively promotes those ideals through its bimonthly *Liberty* magazine. The working policy in North America points out the church's teaching "that religious liberty is best achieved, guaranteed and preserved when church and government respect each other's proper areas of activity and concern."

Union of American Hebrew Congregations

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations ("UAHC") represents 1.5 million Reform Jews in 850 congregations nationwide. For over a century, the UAHC has fought for religious liberty and tolerance, believing these to be among the greatest gifts America has bestowed upon the world. The UAHC has participated as *amicus* in a wide array of religious liberty cases, often before the United States Supreme Court. Recent Supreme Court *amicus* participation includes *Board of Education of the Kiryas Joel Village School District v. Louis Grumet* (1993) and *City of Boerne, Texas v. P.F. Flores, Archbishop* (1997).

Hadassah

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, with over 300,000 members nationwide, is both the largest women's and the largest Jewish membership organization in the country. Hadassah has long been committed to the protection of a strict separation of church and state as guaranteed by the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

For example, in 1981, Hadassah made the following statement: "Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, notes that

the First Amendment to the Constitution set up the wall of separation between church and state which has served as a guarantee for religious freedom and diversity in the United States, including that of the Jewish community." And in 1994, Hadassah further stated: "Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, firmly believes that the First Amendment clearly prohibits any government entity, including public schools, from fostering religious practices and/or beliefs."

Throughout the years, Hadassah has passed numerous similar statements reaffirming our steadfast commitment to the separation of church and state.

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs ("JCPA"), formerly the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, is an umbrella organization of 13 national and 122 local Jewish public affairs and community relations agencies across the United States, including the Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Congress, American Jewish Committee, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America and the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York abstain from joining this brief.

Founded in 1944, the JCPA has long been devoted to preserving the essential principles embodied in the Bill of Rights, particularly the First Amendment guarantee of separation of church and state. The JCPA believes that the Establishment Clause is an essential bulwark in protecting the religious freedom of all Americans, and has therefore joined *amicus curiae* briefs in a number of other seminal church-state cases before this Court.

Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

The Jewish Reconstructionist Federation ("JRF") is signing on to this brief as an *amicus curiae*. We are a federation of over 90 congregations in the United States. We are committed to the religious rights and freedoms of all Americans. We believe that the separation of church and state is the best way to realize these freedoms. We believe that the religious freedom of every individual has helped to make this the most pluralist and freest nation on earth. We want to protect this heritage.

National Council of Jewish Women

The National Council of Jewish Women, Inc. ("NCJW") is a volunteer organization, inspired by Jewish values, that works through a program of research, education, advocacy and community service to improve the quality of life for women, children and families and strives to ensure individual rights and freedoms for all. Founded in 1893, the National Council of Jewish Women has 90,000 members in over 500 communities nationwide. Given NCJW's *National Principles*, which state, "Religious liberty and the separation of religion and state are constitutional principles which must be protected and preserved in our democratic society," we join this brief.

National Organization for Women Foundation

The National Organization for Women Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization devoted to furthering women's rights through education, advocacy and litigation. NOW Foundation is affiliated with the National Organization for Women, the largest feminist organization in the United States, with a membership of over 200,000 women and men in more than 500 chapters in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since its inception in 1986, a major goal of NOW Foundation has been to end discrimination in all of its forms, including discrimination based on religion. We have a strong interest in maintaining the constitutional separation of church and state, and in protecting the rights of minority populations.